

THE HINDOO PATRIOT

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THE WEEK.

MONDAY, 18TH JANUARY.

ADVERTISING to the exhibitions of certain nautch girls and of the Parsee Victoria Dramatic Company in London, the *Englishman* thus delivers itself: "It may be questioned whether the natives of India, or the Barnums who manage their companies, are not exploiting in England rather too severely at present. In a certain class of English society the performances of the Indian Delegates have been looked upon as a sort of philanthropic entertainment, to which the patronage shown to them by the Secretary of the Aborigines Protection Society gave some degree of colour. Conscientious and goody-goody people went to see the wonderful products of English civilisation, and were delighted to hear them speak English like the *para suk*, or learned parrot, whom the Bengali, in his native village, loves so well." This would have done well for that vile print, the *Bengal Times*, but it is quite out of place in the columns of a paper which professes to be the exponent of the higher orders of Englishmen in this country. It is poor enough as a joke, and execrable in taste. Coming from one who is foremost in preaching on the importance of good feeling and sympathy among Europeans and Indians, it is outrageous. Had a native paper written in this style, our contemporary would have been the first to denounce it with all the sanctimoniousness of a 40-horse power parson.

CHINESE TRADE through the Bhamo route has naturally been in a standstill for some time on account of the war, but is expected to be resumed with fresh vigour immediately that the steamers which had been taken up for military purposes can be spared to return to their regular service. The English traders must be made good the loss caused by the temporary suspension of mercantile operations.

It is said that Mr. Seymour Keay is expected back to India shortly. But he will not stay away from England long, as it is his intention to take an active part in English politics henceforth.

SYLHET, with more than a million Mussalmans, sends only 5,500 Mussalman boys and girls to school, while Sibsagar, a Hindu district, with a Mussalman population of only 15,600, has 665 Mussalman children at school. The Assam Education Report does not try to account for this anomaly. If any peculiar local circumstances can be traced to explain this somewhat singular fact, it should be the duty of the authorities to find them out and remedy the evil, if possible.

THE ENGLISH papers announce the acceptance by our late Commander-in-Chief of the soldiers' Temperance Association Medal. For five years past Sir Donald Stewart has been a practical abstainer and a warm sympathiser with these associations. The number of total abstainers serving in the British Army in India at the present time is given by the Revd. Nelson Gregson at fifteen thousand. Still drunken riots and unsoldierly conduct seem to be daily on the increase, at any rate on this side of India.

THE Government of New South Wales has received from the Maharajah of Jeypore four handsomely bound volumes as memorials of the Exhibition held at Jeypore in 1883. The volumes are to be placed in the public library of Sydney, and the Government printer has been directed to prepare for presentation to the Maharajah a neatly bound copy of photographic views of various parts of New South Wales, and also a nicely bound volume of the book published some time ago in connection with the establishment of the British Protectorate in New Guinea, together with a copy of Fitzgerald's—"Orchards," and some other books on the resources of the colony. The Maharaja ought to be thankful for this mark of courtesy.

THE IMMEDIATE results of the recent Military fracas at Poona has been the separation of the belligerent regiments. Of the actual result of the Court of Inquiry very little has been known. It transpired that the guard of the Gloucestershire Regiment turned out under arms, and charged the King's Own men with the bayonet. One man stated in his evidence that he saw a man of the Gloucestershire Regiment come out of the guard-room with his rifle, bring it to

the loading position, extract a cartridge from his pouch, come to the firing position, and deliberately discharge his rifle. It is said, that one of the offending regiments is to be sent to the bleak regions of Quetta. The individual delinquents should be found out and severely dealt with.

ON THE 30th October last at Constantinople there was great scarcity of drinking water, as there was none in the mains. The *sad shis* (carriers) were then selling it at three piastres (6d.) a skin, instead of ten paras (½d.) the usual price. It turned out afterwards that the Sultan had ordered a lake to be constructed in the Yildis Park and the town's water to be used for the purpose of filling it. The lake is covered with a glass dome tinted blue, and here the Sultan sails about with his favourite Sultanah in a little steamer, built expressly in England. Around the lake are exotic plants and artificial grottoes, in which are placed chiming clocks, which can be made to play together for the Sultan's diversion. He has also purchased a number of organs, which perform a variety of airs.

TUESDAY, 19TH JANUARY.

THE *Deccan Times* hears on "good authority" that the Viceroy will "visit them after all." After visiting Mandalay he will cross over to Madras and take Hyderabad on his way back. Between the tours and the Simla season, His Excellency's residence at the 'capital' will thus be reduced to the shortest period possible.

TRANSMITTING a match box through the Post Office is an offence under the law, and a Bombay Marwari has been fined fifty rupees for committing it. As the convicting magistrate remarked, the offence was a serious one, and if the box had taken fire in the Post office bag, it might have destroyed property worth millions of money. The exaggeration about "millions" is excusable.

THE DEEPEST mourner for Alfonso's death has been 'Ugly, his Skye terrier.' The poor animal howled to be allowed to go with him to El Pardo, but was not allowed. She got there notwithstanding, but how, nobody knows. When the King was dead she was found lying under his bed in a state of deepest depression. Ugly, certainly knew that she had lost her royal master. Ever since that loss, she has been altogether off her food, and to prevent her dying from inanition, milk and soup have to be forced down her throat. The Queen was greatly distressed at having to allow the poor little dog to be turned out of the mortuary chamber when the religious ceremonies were taking place.

A CONTEMPORARY seems to think that now that annexation has been proclaimed, something like a rush to Mandalay may be looked for, and it suggests that it would be possible to exercise a mild control over any possible incursion, by adopting for a time a system of passport. "It would be possible thus," it says, "to prevent a gathering of English waifs and adventurers at Mandalay, such as is only too likely to be drawn thither by the fabled wealth of Burma, and by the speculative chances of the situation. The door ought to be closed upon the loafer, and no one should be allowed to enter the country upon the mere hope of obtaining employment. There will be a demand for servants to be employed under Government, and by private firms, and the service will doubtless attract volunteers from all parts of India, but the condition of the country renders it desirable that men with neither calling nor capital should be prevented from crossing the border. It will save much personal distress and much trouble to the Government if some regulation be framed on the understanding that, for the present at least, Upper Burma is not a poor man's country." It will at any rate help in reserving the loaves and fishes for the chosen few, and in preventing much ugly news leaking out when the "Settlement" operations are commenced.

THE *Mining Journal* observes that "after the experience of the last few years, it is not surprising to find that investors are in considerable doubt as to the expediency of investing in Indian gold mines. There can be no doubt that the reports first published were considerably overdrawn, and the prices paid for various properties were out of all proportion to their intrinsic value; indeed, in many cases the price paid

would have been high if the mines were fully equipped and were returning regular dividend. We hold, therefore, that hitherto the failure in Indian gold mines is traceable more to the manner in which they have been overweighed than to any real failing in the mines themselves." We were, therefore, not far wrong in cautioning our readers some time ago against the various rumours about the richness of certain gold fields in Southern India. As we then remarked there are too many bears and bulls in the way.

WEDNESDAY, 20TH JANUARY.

In the *Contemporary Review*, Professor Sayce has a most interesting article on the origin of the alphabet. Starting with the well-ascertained fact that the Greek alphabet, the origin of the Roman, was derived from the Phoenicians, he examines in turn the theories which attribute the original invention to the Hittites, the Bedouins, and the Assyrians, and shows how it is more probable that the Phoenicians, in their commercial intercourse with Egyptians, borrowed the small group of symbols used by that people from time immemorial as alphabetic letters, and gave them new names. In conclusion he says:—"It is no longer doubtful that the immense majority, if not the whole, of the alphabets used in the East are descended, like the alphabets of the West from the alphabet of Phoenicia. In fact, it is difficult to find any alphabet which cannot be affiliated to the Phœnician, widely different as the two may have become, both in the forms of the letters and in the value that they bear. Intermediate forms are continually being discovered, which bridge over the enormous distances, and explain the transition, that time and space have effected. Even the Devanagari alphabet of Sanskrit, whatever disputes there may be as to its exact pedigree, is generally allowed to be of Phœnician origin. With the exception of the cuneiform alphabet of the ancient Persians, and obscure corners of the world, all the alphabets of which we know are derived, ultimately, from a single source." Tracing all of them, particularly the Devanagari, to the English Alphabet would have been nearer the mark.

MANY of our readers know well that a lady, Yamunabai Joshee, has been prosecuting her studies in medicine at Philadelphia. She is one of the candidates for the M. D. examination, to be held in March next. After passing the examination, she intends to leave America for this country. Her assistance at this time will be very valuable, as Her Excellency Lady Dufferin has been actively engaged in adopting proper measures to impart the knowledge of medicine to the females of this country. It will be a good thing if the leading men of Bombay seize the opportunity of securing the services of the Indian Lady Professor to teach medicine.

AN INTERESTING relic of the famous Sir Walter Raleigh was sold the other day by a well known firm of auctioneers. It consists of Sir Walter's original tobacco pipe, which is said on a certain memorable occasion to have so excited the disgust of Queen Elizabeth. At the same sale, a sword which once belonged to Lord Edward Fitzgerald, the leader of the rebellion of 1798, was also put up. They were the property of the late Rex, Dr. Neligan, who had formed a remarkable collection of curiosities of all sorts. We are not told what price the first named relic fetched. To devotees of the fragrant weed the 'relic' ought to have a particular value as the wherewithal through which the introducer of baccy in the civilized regions, had his historic pulls.

IN DENMARK recently it was decided to hold a test examination of the recruits for the army and navy. The knowledge of geography in the regiment of Danish Life Guards leaves much to be desired; thus Paris, St. Petersburg, Amsterdam, London, Madrid, and Constantinople were given as replies to the question, "Which is the Capital of Sweden?" London, Paris, Berlin, and Vienna were mentioned as among the largest towns in Denmark. America, Africa, India, Australia, and Europe are among the four cardinal points, according to some of the gallant Life Guards. The information if in time, might have been of some little use to Messrs Rowe and Webb in preparing the revised edition of their "Hints." Their opinion of Babu lore in general might have been considerably modified.

DURING THE month of November last 560 emigrants left the Port of Calcutta for Demerara.

MR. A. R. COLQUHOUN, the Burma-Chinese Explorer, arrived at Bombay last week. He proceeds to Burma where a comfortable berth in the shape of a Deputy Commissionership will at once be provided for him for the pains he has systematically taken in advocating annexation for the purposes of extension of British trade. His reward ought to encourage other British explorers in other parts of the world.

THE COMPASS, used by Captain Cook on his first voyage round the world, and other relics of the famous navigator, have been received and placed in Sydney Museum.

It is said that the people of Switzerland intend to give up the habit of alcohol drinking. At a meeting called for this purpose 2,29,000 persons were for the proposal and 157,184 were against it. This was something like a meeting, if of course, the report can be accepted as reliable.

THE PARIS *Temps* gives great credit to the English people for carrying through the Burmese expedition during the elections without any attempt to make party capital out of it, to embarrass the Government. John Bull is far too shrewd for that, and knows how to keep his counsels when the "interests of trade" are at stake.

THURSDAY, 21ST JANUARY.

AN ENGLISH paper dwells on the fact that Parliaments which meet in January are seldom long lived. Since the year 1510 only twelve Parliaments have met during the first month of the year. The Parliament which met on January 21st, 1510, was dissolved on the 23rd day of the next month. The Parliament which met on the 16th of January, 1541, lasted till March 1544. In 1858, a Parliament met in January, and was dissolved in November. The very next year a Parliament met in January and was dissolved in May. Four years afterwards, a Parliament met in January, which survived nearly four years. In January, 1621, a Parliament met which lasted less than one year. A "Commonwealth" Parliament met on the 27th of January, 1649, and perished in less than three months. On the 22nd of January, 1689, Parliament met, and was dissolved on the 6th of February, 1690. The Parliament that met on the 28th of January, 1728, lasted until the 18th of April, 1734; and the Parliament that met on the 14th of January, 1735, survived until the 28th of April, 1741. These two are the longest-lived January Parliaments on record. The Parliament that met on the 14th January, 1819, was dissolved on the 25th of February, 1820. In 1833, the Parliament which met on the 29th of January, was dissolved on the 30th of December, 1834. The fate of the one that met in January in the year of grace 1886 still trembles in the balance. No wonder people will believe in 'fatality'; but it is a wonder that there are so many English men who have nothing better to do than to indulge in such speculations. And they denounce the Bengalis for their folklore.

THE DUKE of Edinburgh has after all been appointed to the command of the Mediterranean Fleet. This is a significant fact, considering that the Duke is a son-in-law of the Czar of Russia. This appointment is a diplomatic step of deep import. The Duke's relationship with the Czar, it is thought, may not have been without its effect on the deliberation of the Lords of the Admiralty about the appointment.

IN RUSSIA six persons have been sentenced to death, eighteen to sixteen years' hard labor in the mines, two to ten years' penal servitude with exile to Siberia, and two others to transportation to Siberia for life, for belonging to an illegal Society. Still these Societies are as common in the country as mushrooms in season. The best thing therefore that the Government can do in its own interests, as in those of its subjects, is to allow them to exist and work in a legal way.

AN EXTRAORDINARY case of an attempt to extort money from the Prince of Wales is now under trial before the Chief Magistrate at Bow Street, London. The prisoner wrote letters declaring himself to be a member of a gang of conspirators to assassinate His Royal Highness, and offering to betray his associates if a thousand pounds were sent to a certain place. The Police sent a bag of new farthings when the prisoner believing the money had come from the Prince, raised his demand to fifteen hundred pounds. The prisoner has been committed for trial.

THE murderous attack on Mr. Garstin, the popular member of the Madras Board of Revenue, does not seem to have been committed by actual robbers, as

Mr. Garstin's money and articles were not touched, but by a gang of conspirators who were bent on getting rid of Mr. Crole, an unpopular Collector, "who was a thorn to his District" and mistook the one for the other. We are told that Mr. Garstin telegraphed to Government that the attack was the result of Mr. Crole's mismanagement of the district. The ruffians left Mr. Garstin almost lifeless. The Police are doing their best to clear up the mystery.

WE CULL the following with pleasure from the proceedings of the last meeting of the Agricultural and Horticultural Society of India:—

Baboo Soti Bhushan Biswas, Editor of the *Bhuvrat Samajini*, applied for information as to whether oil had been, to the knowledge of the Society, extracted from the tamarind seed. The Baboo was informed that the Society's *Journal* for 1886 seemed to contain the only recorded instance of oil being expressed from the seeds of the tamarind. A sample of this oil was sent in 1886 to the Society by Captain Thomas Davies from Bolidana, who mentions that he discovered the seeds would yield an oil much to his own surprise, and that of all the Natives. He described the oil to be of a fine amber colour, free from smell and sweet to the taste, and in his opinion suitable for culinary purposes. The Society's Sub-Committee reported favourably on the oil, and suggested that it might be found useful in the preparation of varnishes and paints, as well as for burning in lamps. They consider about Rs. 10 a maund would be its market price, though this quotation would be no guide to us now. A member of the Committee Baboo Ram Gopal Ghose, remarked that the tamarind seed (*Kybechees*) in Bengal is mostly thrown away; in times of scarcity it is eaten fried to a limited extent by the poor, and is used as a varnish for painting idols and finishing *kurpa* cloth, and talat paper is also prepared from it, but the bulk of the seeds are thrown away. The Committee remarked that the oil had a smell similar to linseed oil, but Captain Davies subsequently explained that this was due to the mill in which it was expressed being one ordinarily used for making that oil. Baboo Soti Bhushan Biswas has been asked to communicate further particulars as to the result of his own experiment.

The Babu's experiments if successful will open a new and hitherto altogether neglected industry of our country.

ASSISTANTS and Clerks, now admitted to the Survey Department, are entertained only on the understanding that they will not be permitted to refuse to go to Upper Burma if ordered to that part of the Empire in the interests of the State.

THE NEW English Parliament that has just met, is certainly the largest legislative assembly in the world. In France, with an electorate of more than ten millions, the Chamber of Deputies consists of 557 members. In Germany, with an electorate of upwards of nine millions, the Reichstag consists of 397 members. In the United States, with an electorate exceeding eight millions the House of Representatives consists of 325 members. The electorate in England, with the additions made by the Franchise Bill, does not exceed five millions, and there are 670 members. Italy, which stands pretty well up the list in Continental nations, has 503 deputies in its Chamber, and Spain has a Congress of 431. Before the union with Scotland, England got along moderately well with 513 members; 45 were added for Scotland; and when, at the union with Ireland and at the beginning of this century, 100 members were added for that country, we had the Parliament of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland with 658 members.

A SOMEWHAT strange and unprecedented event is reported to have happened on the G. I. P. Railway. The account says that about midnight on Friday, as the Jubbulpore mail train was passing the Padli Bridge, between Deolali and Igutpura, some one discharged a rifle at the engine of the train. The driver narrowly escaped being hurt, but on account of the darkness and the speed at which the train was moving at the time he could not see the person who fired the gun. The train was detained near the Bailgon station to see whether damage was done to the engine, and at the same time the matter was reported to the station officials. The police were soon afterwards sent after the culprit, but no trace of him could be discovered.

SIGNOR Baldi, a Genoese gentleman, is in possession of the chains with which, by order of Bobadill, the Minister of Ferdinand of Spain, Christopher Columbus was bound when deprived of the Governorship of the country he had discovered. What an idler!

THE Home Secretary of England has declined to receive a deputation to present a petition for the release of Mr. Stead from prison.

THE *Times of India* remarking on the case of oyster poisoning we noticed last week, says, "It is perhaps too much to expect people to refrain from eating Bombay oysters altogether. But our paternal Government has a scientific staff at its disposal, and some well known scientist should be told off to study the question. Until the last few years the Bombay oyster was as harmless as the oyster of Kurrachee is now. There have, however, been several well-authenticated cases of death from oyster-poisoning lately. Science should be able to explain the reason for the change, and until science is able to pronounce,

common sense should ostracise the oyster." Bombay oysters are brought over from Bombay and sold and eaten in Calcutta. If they are injurious, even fatal, in Bombay, where, of course, they are obtained quite fresh, it must be even more dangerous to eat them in Calcutta. Well, our countrymen do not indulge in oysters.

FRIDAY, 22ND JANUARY.

PREPARATIONS are being made in Rangoon for the reception of the Viceroy. Great things are expected from His Excellency's visit to Mandalay.

THE REORGANISATION and abolition of the Council of Ministers at Mandalay is under consideration.

THE NAWAB of Malairkotla has promised the sum of Rs. 10,000 as a donation towards the cost of establishing the Punjab Chiefs College. The sum now contributed by Punjab Chiefs amounts to Rs. 95,000.

THE CONCESSION which the Secretary of State has agreed to grant for the construction of the Nilgiri Railway will be to a company to be formed before the 1st March next.

A CORRESPONDENT of the *Bombay Gazette* writing about the success of the Indian delegates says:—"The delegates make little of the rejection of the Parliamentary candidates who had the approval of the political associations, but they made much of the sympathy for India and the interest in India which they were able to awaken amongst the English constituencies. Upon that point they were able to adduce what may fairly be regarded as satisfying evidence, and looking at their work from that point of view it would be unreasonable to regard it as wanting in result. The measure of success which has attended an effort to familiarise the public of Great Britain with the real facts of Indian administration is the most sure and certain guarantee of final triumph. For, if with such feeble and inadequate means so much was done, what may we not hope for if you in India set yourselves and we in this country set ourselves determinedly to the task of obtaining, through the goodwill and instructed common sense of the electors of Britain, those acts of justice and those changes in administration which your Empire so greatly needs?" We invite the attention of the *Englishman* and the *Pioneer* to these sensible remarks.

NEWS COMES from Quetta that that obdurate character of Shah Jehan, prophet, priest, and king of the Zhoobwals, with all his personal followers and the Chiefs of Zhoob, has at last come into Duki to Captain Gaisford, Assistant Political Agent, to make his submission to Sir Robert Sandiman, in accordance with the terms of the agreement made with the Zhoobwals at the end of last year's expedition. The submission of Shah Jehan at this season has a certain importance, as it permits of British influence being extended without check to the Gomal Pass.

THE CONVOCATION of the Bombay University for the conferring of degrees this year was held on Tuesday, the 19th inst. In absence of Lord Reay, the Chancellor, the Hon. J. B. Peile, C. S. I. Vice Chancellor, presided.

WE ARE GLAD to record some instances of patient sufferings uncomplainingly undergone by our native soldiers in Upper Burma. Two companies of the second Bengal Infantry who escorted a telegraph party from Laingha to Minhla last November had to march for four days over hilly ground in pouring rain. They had no tents or any other shelter and had to bear the inclemencies of the weather in the open. Owing to the break down of the Commissariat steamer they had to go without any rations for two days and a half; but the soldiers bore the privations manfully and never complained. The remark of one of the Sepoys was characteristic:—"We had no food but neither had the Shahib. It was the Sircar's order that we should proceed, and so we did." The incident recalls to mind the old Arcot days when the men under Olive gave the Sahibs the boiled rice reserving for themselves the poor water in which it was boiled. The spirit has not died out altogether.

SUNFLOWER is a vigorous grower, and is said to be a preventive of malarial diseases. Its seed affords excellent food for poultry and also, for horses. It is said that there is no kind of food that will keep horses in health, give them a sleek appearance, and make them so lively and spirited, as the seed of the sunflower, and feeding them with half a pint night and morning is particularly recommended for giving cattle power of endurance. Sunflower stalks and heads, after seed is worked out, also make good material for fires, and are specially convenient during summer, when a quick fire is desired and an enduring heat is not wanted. In its growth this plant makes a showy appearance about dwellings, and gives an agreeable fragrance to the air. The latest direction in utilising sunflower is planting seed in a place at proper dis-

tances, so that stalks as they grow will serve as bean-poles.

"AT THIS moment, when Radicals are being accused of proposing to give every poor labourer a cow at the public expense, it may be worth while," says a London paper, "to mention the fact that this is exactly what Mr. Pitt proposed to do in 1797. One of the clauses in his Poor Law Bill provided that two justices of the peace might authorise the advance of money out of the rates to enable an indigent person to purchase a cow or 'other animal yielding profit.' Over this clause Jeremy Bentham poured the vials of his contempt. 'It would be something,' he wrote, 'in the way of security, though surely not much, if the cow were but safely lodged in the cowhouse of the indigent to whom the possession of her is to be an inexhaustible spring of affluence. But even this security, slender as it is, is not provided. The capital is to be advanced, not in the shape of the cow, but in the shape of *hard money*, with which the object of this extraordinary bounty is left perfectly at liberty to lay in a fund, either in *milk* or *gin*, according to his taste.'

SATURDAY, 23RD JANUARY.

TWO THOUSAND five hundred and fifty miles of fencing-wire, and 450 miles of wire-netting have been ordered by the Government of Queensland for the purpose of erecting a rabbit-proof fence, with a view to effectually stopping the advance of the pest from the south. It is doubtful, however, if the device will answer the purpose. Goldsmith once wrote a story in which a pious commun, y was worried to death by the ravages of squirrels, and suggested the destruction of the vermin and carnivorousness as the only remedy. Like the Dodo the rabbit may be made extinct by the appetite of man.

ACCORDING to existing arrangement, this month will witness the first visible outcome of the federation of Victoria, Queensland, South Australia, West Australia, and Tasmania. The Federal Council will hold its inaugural meeting at Hobart on the 25th January. The Victorian Government had been asked to observe the anniversary as a public holiday, but they have declined to do so on the ground that the federation is not yet complete.

THE COUNCIL of the Bombay Presidency Association resolved, at their meeting, last Monday, to make a suitable representation to the Viceroyal Legislative Council on various points connected with the proposed Income-Tax and on the grounds assigned for it. Bangalore and Madras have done the same.

THE DISCOVERY of pieces of human flesh and bones in a tank at Bhowanipore, to which we referred some time ago, has lost its romantic character. We understand that these bones &c were parts of bodies which had been used for anatomical studies at Dr. Kastogiree's school, Boitakhana, and had been made over to *domes* for disposal. As an easy way of getting rid of them the latter had thrown the remains into the tank. It is to be hoped, that means of identifying and punishing them will be found. Calcutta tank water is foul enough already without needing to be further polluted in this horrid manner. The Medical gentlemen's surmise that the wounds could not have been inflicted but by trained hands proves true to the letter.

THE GREAT *mela* at Saugor Island, on the occasion of the ceremony of bathing at the confluence of the holy river Ganges with the sea, commenced on Sunday, the 10th January, and terminated on Tuesday last, the 12th instant. Many temporary booths and stalls were opened on the island. The number of pilgrims assembled there is roughly and not very correctly estimated at about 1,50,000, of whom some 80,000 were women. The number of boats arrived at the island, during the *mela*, was about 4,500, of which 8 were steamers. The revenue of the *mohunt*, or high priest, from this *mela*, is estimated at about Rs. 15,000, out of which he had to pay all the costs of the police, medical, conservancy, and other temporary arrangements made by Government. An Assistant Superintendent of Police, with a small police force, a medical officer, and a Deputy Magistrate, who held summary trials of petty offences in his tent, were on the spot.

It is reported that an Italian gentleman has succeeded in getting hold of the Hairy Family at Mandalay, and will shortly proceed with them to Europe. Mr. Barnum's agent, when in Rangoon, a few months ago, wanted to get this attraction for the New York Museum, but though he offered liberal terms he could not induce Theebaw to part with the family. Barnum has been out-Barnumed by the quiet removal of the King.

A NATIVE gentleman at Neriad, in Guzerat, is about to embark upon tobacco manufacture. He is building a large curing house, which is to be placed in charge of an expert who hopes to be able to produce tobacco suitable for European consumption. A

good deal of land is already under cultivation, and the crop thereupon, both indigenous and exotic, is in excellent condition. Indian tobacco, if properly dressed and cured, is not likely to prove inferior to Moulmein or other varieties.

AS AN instance of the practical value of debates in our Legislative Councils, the following from a contemporary will be read with interest :

A cut-and-dried scheme already prepared shows what a farce has been enacted in the Legislative essays called debate on the income-tax. The Board of Revenue, Lower Provinces, is said to have called upon the Collector of Calcutta to submit, as early as practicable, a report, with a scheme for the operation in Bengal of the Income Tax Act, which will shortly be passed into law. The report, we hear, has already been submitted to Government, with the views and opinions of the Board.

A RUMOUR is current to the effect that the Government of India, not having been satisfied with the result of the last Commission appointed to submit a scheme for the re-organisation of the Public Works Department, contemplate the appointment of a new Commission for the same purpose.

IRRIGATION WORK in the Madras Presidency must be generally remunerative, some of them being said to be paying as much as 10 and 11 per cent interest on capital. But in Bengal, the so called productive public works generally don't pay their working expenses. The Midnapore and Orissa canals, originated by a private company for profit, had to be taken up by Government, it will be remembered, at a dead loss.

A SUGGESTION made at Madras, with regard to the annual official excursion to the hills, is that nobody would object so much if the excursionists paid their own expenses. We heartily second this proposition nothing like touching the pocket. The health of the officers concerned would thrive immensely on the plains if they found that they had to pay for their picnics.

A FEW months ago the authorities of New York sent over a representative to London with instructions to examine the obelisk on the embankment, and ascertain what steps were being taken to prevent decay. The sister stone, which stands in the Central Park in New York, has, of late, shown alarming signs of decay. The result of the mission to England has been that the American obelisk has been coated with paraffin, and is now believed to be impervious to the effects of the climate. In the process 870lbs. of stone were scraped away, and about 67lbs. of paraffin absorbed by the Monolith.

THE TOTAL number of deaths registered during the week was 251 against 254 and 319 in the 2 preceding weeks and 4 less than those of the corresponding week last year. The figure is also less than the quinquennial mean by 26. There were 32 deaths registered under the head of cholera, a number equal to that of the previous week. The deaths from fevers and bowel complaints were below the averages of the last five years. The general mortality of the week was 30.2 per mille per annum.

WE HAVE received some very fair specimens of red, black and blue-black writing inks, the manufacture of Babu B. N. Banerjee of Calcutta. The manufacturer was awarded a first class certificate and a Silver Medal at the late Calcutta International Exhibition. The inks ought to find a ready sale.

The Hindoo Patriot.

MONDAY, JANUARY 25, 1886.

AN EXTRA TAX ON WARDS' ESTATES.

IT will be remembered that when Sir George Campbell was Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, his fertile brain conceived the idea of levying a tax on Wards Estates to cover the cost of the time devoted by Government officers in supervising, their management. He called upon the Board of Revenue for a report as to the amount of work thrown upon district officers in connection with Wards' and Attached Estates. In their reply, the Board suggested that the estates should pay a part of the salaries of the Government officers employed in the duties of superintendence. Sir George Campbell, as might have been anticipated, considered the suggestion a most reasonable one. But as at that time there were proposals for taking in hand settlements and other improvements, which would require considerable expenditure to be incurred

by the Estates, it was determined to reserve this question for a future occasion. The question was revived in 1879. Lord Cranbrook, the then Secretary of State for India, enquired, whether beyond the cost or ratable charge on account of establishments, any contribution is levied in return for the services rendered by the various officers and departments of Government in superintending the administration of Wards' Estates. And His Lordship observed : "Should there be no charge, then, looking to the labour involved and to the great benefits thereby secured to those properties and their owners by the action of the Court of Wards, it seems to be deserving of consideration whether some such charge should not be imposed." The Government of India thereupon desired the local Governments to give their careful consideration to this subject.

In 1880 the Board of Revenue submitted to Government a report showing the amount of work done in the Wards Department, more especially the proportion of their time which Commissioners and Collectors devoted to the management of Wards' and Attached Estates. The Board in reply said that, taking an average of all districts and divisions, Commissioners and Collectors give fully one-eighth of their time to work connected with the Court of Wards, and that in some cases these duties absorb as much as one-fourth or even more of an officer's working time. This was a mere *ipse dixit*, though alleged to have been founded on the figures contained in the report for 1878-79. Every pice of the cost of management is paid by the estates and the management is conducted by men employed under Managers or Superintendents who are paid out of the estates—not unoften very handsomely, which means ruinously, to the estates concerned. The Managers submit reports and returns to Collectors and for examining them clerks are entertained at the offices of the Collectors and Commissioners and those clerks get their pay and pension from a fee fund derived from the estates, so that the only work left unremunerated is that of supervision and orders by Collectors and Commissioners. To say that this takes up one-fourth of the time of those officers suggests the idea that the working time of those officers must be exceedingly limited. However, not to wrangle over what cannot be proved one way or another we may remark that whatever the proportion, we must point out, it no longer holds good. Owing to the release of Durbhanga and other estates, the amount of work has much diminished. Again the system of appointing a General Manager of Estates in all districts in which there is a considerable Court of Wards' work, has been adopted during the last few years. The combined operation of these two causes has considerably reduced the time which revenue officers find it necessary to devote to Wards' work. Several officers, however, stated in reference to Lord Cranbrook's enquiry that the actual time devoted to Wards' work does not represent fairly the amount of worry and trouble that the management of Wards' work throws on them personally. We regret we cannot understand the meaning of this statement without full and clear explanation. The details of management are in the hands of managers, who receive pay from the Estates under their management. All that Commissioners and Collectors are required to do, is to exercise a general supervision over the

managers. The management of Wards' work does not certainly throw on them a large amount of worry and trouble than is involved, say, in looking after the Treasury work, or the jail work, which is under the charge of special officers. The Board of Revenue, as we said in our last, further pointed out that although there is no rate at present existing from which Government officers are compensated for the time and labour they devote to Wards' work, rates are now levied from Wards and Attached Estates for various purposes. The first is what is known as the Wards' rate fund. This rate is levied on the current demand of rent of Estates, and the object is to defray the salaries of ministerial establishments employed in Government offices for doing Wards' work, and meet the cost of postage, stationery &c. &c. This rate is intended to provide only for usual establishments. If under special circumstances it is necessary to employ in a Government office an extraordinary establishment for the management of any estate or estates, the cost of such an establishment is charged to the estate or estates concerned. Thus the second personal assistant in the Patna Commissioner's Office is specially paid for by the Estates in that division. A second rate on Wards and Attached Estates has been imposed by the orders of Government, in order to defray part of the cost of treasury establishments. The third existing charge on these estates is what is known as the litigation fund. The object of this fund is to reimburse Government the expense of appeals in Wards' cases, and from time to time Collectors remit, as directed by the Legal Remembrancer, such sums as may be required by him. The Board are of opinion that looking to the labour involved, some charge should now be imposed to defray the cost of the labour of Government Revenue officers in superintending and supervising the management of Wards' Estates. They suggest one of two courses, either to employ separate revenue officers chargeable to the estates concerned or to levy a rate payable ratably to the Collectors who do the work, or carry the amount to the credit of Government. It is only fair to say that neither of these schemes meets favour with the Board of Revenue. If any contribution raised from Wards' Estates were appropriated as a general asset to the provincial revenues the measure would be extremely unpopular. And if it were applied to paying those public officers by whom the duties are now performed, the public would look upon the whole thing as a clever device for removing the block in the Civil Service by granting personal allowances at another's cost. The Board of Revenue recognise the force of these arguments. They have made a proposal which they think is not open to the objections which may be made to the appropriation of the proposed new rate as a general asset to the public revenues or as a direct payment to district officers. They would apply its proceeds to the creation of an Assistant Secretaryship in their own office to be employed exclusively on Wards' Estates. "The Assistant Secretaryship," they explain, "should ordinarily be held by a native of the country, and it would be a prize appointment for the best Deputy Collectors in the service." This hint is probably thrown out in order to reconcile the Native community to the additional rate proposed to be imposed on Wards and Attached

Estates. But we object to the proposal on principle, and the appointment of a Native Assistant Secretary in the Boards' Office will not remove the objection. In conclusion the Board remarked:—"The question is a very difficult one, and calls for the enunciation of a clear line of policy regarding which there is evidently room for much difference of opinion." They accordingly asked to be favoured with the declaration of a line of policy by Government. Sir Ashley Eden did not receive with favour the Board's proposal for imposing a contribution upon Wards' Estates as suggested by Lord Cranbrook. In the review of the Wards' Report for 1879-80 it is said, the late Lieutenant-Governor was not, however, prepared to support this proposal. "Wards' Estates are taken in charge by Government officers mainly in order to the protection of the Government revenue. They pay already the whole cost of their management of the ministerial establishments required in Government offices to conduct the correspondence regarding them and of the establishments employed in the treasuries to keep their accounts. The general supervision given by Collectors, Commissioners and the Board of Revenue is no doubt of value to the estates, but it is given as much in the interests of Government as of the individual proprietors benefited, and ought not, in the Lieutenant-Governor's opinion, to be separately assessed and paid for." These most sensible remarks, to our thinking, dispose of the question raised by Lord Cranbrook in 1879. Lord Ripon's Government, on a full consideration of the matter, agreed with the view taken by Sir Ashley Eden, and held that the existing system of charging rates upon Wards and Attached Estates in Bengal should not be modified. Lord Hartington also agreed with the Government of India in this conclusion. After this decision the question raised by Lord Cranbrook should not be reopened.

INDIA IN PARLIAMENT.

IN common with all the rest of our countrymen we regret that Mr. Lalmohun Ghose has been unsuccessful in his spirited endeavour to win a seat in the British House of Commons. It is true that there are men in the House who have had Indian experience. But most of the other men have only seen something of India from railway carriage windows in the course of a cold weather tour. Are the people of India likely to be benefited by these men, or by the presence of any number of men like them? India is for them merely a stalking horse to political advancement. They are either bound and conditioned by official traditions; or their knowledge about India is so exceedingly limited that it is, as an old saw puts it "a dangerous thing," and likely to prove dangerous to the people of India rather than beneficial. Besides, as Mr. Carlyle puts it, the eye sees only what it brings the power to see," and it is no disparagement to Englishmen in the mass to say that they look out upon the oriental world through English eyes.

That is why all of us in this country would have liked to see in Parliament, when Indian debates are on hand, a man able to tell stay-at-home Englishmen how Indian affairs look when viewed through media altogether untinged with foreign bias.

It is no use crying over spilt milk, the proverb says. Perhaps it is not, from one point of view. But, from another one, perhaps, it may be.

The point of view we mean which draws a moral and tries to hit upon some plan for avoidance of spilt milk in the future. Suggestions have from time to time been made in the Indian press that India ought to be directly represented in the Imperial Parliament. The idea certainly commends itself to our judgment; and we should like to see Mr. Lalmohun Ghose's electoral defeat supplemented by a practical moral of that sort, and converted from a vexatious loss into a gain all along the line. One of our contemporaries reminded his readers only the other day how the electors of Kirkcaldy called to task their able representative (Sir George Campbell) and reproved him for taking too much parliamentary interest in Indian affairs, to the detriment of the vestry business of Kirkcaldy. To such undesirable friction a member of Parliament representing an English constituency, holding at the same time a moral brief for an Indian constituency would always be liable: and the result of such friction must needs be unsatisfactory and worse to all parties concerned.

It seems to us that it would be much more just, proper, and convenient for India to be to some extent directly represented in the British Parliament. Of course it would be out of the question to manage this on a large scale: but then, neither is indirect representation, by favour of an English constituency, possible on a large scale. Room could certainly be found in the House of Commons for say half a dozen representatives of India's chief cities and centres of public opinion—non-official men, independent men, having the confidence of the people of India, and able to tell the House about those people's needs and wishes. The difficulty probably would lie in inducing suitable men to undertake such a mission. For it would obviously entail grave sacrifices, and inconveniences. Given the opportunity, however,—and we have faith enough in our countrymen to think that properly qualified men would be forthcoming. Of course their expenses would have to be paid—by their own countrymen, if not by the State. Our countrymen ought to see that our representatives are more successful in future. There ought to be a combined organization, and practical steps should be taken to set it on foot. High flown rhapsodies and eloquent tirades are of no avail. We must show by our action that we are earnest about it, and this we earnestly recommend to the notice of our leaders.

A PITCHED BATTLE IN THE MUNICIPAL HALL.

AT a very fully attended meeting of the Corporators on Thursday last a pitched battle was lost and won. It was, as any one reading the proceedings between the lines will not need to be told, a fight between the Babu Corporators and the Health men and their Babu adherents, a struggle of the "new blood" infused by the Government and the old blood retained by the thoughtless electors. The new blood element is at ill-concealed pains to get the ascendancy and to send the 'obstructionists' about their business, and how keen the contest and how persistent the struggle is likely to be will be gathered from the fact that a test resolution was won by the latter by a narrow majority of two, fifty-eight combatants of all arms—we mean of all colors and creeds—joining in the *melee*, and that not till a poll had been demanded and taken a decision could

be arrived at. Mr. Beames the leader of the Opposition for the time being, wanted the Corporators to resolve that no Commissioner be eligible for appointment on more than three committees, or on any other committees that may be hereafter appointed; and that as far as may be practicable, every one of those willing to serve be appointed to some one or other of them. The mover's ostensible reason was to give a fair field and no favour to the "new blood" element, every one of whom ought to be given a chance of being useful to the town by assisting in the deliberations of the committees, without a stereotyped "somebody" who was supposed to know the good and bad among the Commissioners, being allowed to make a monopoly of the business. He was loyally supported by his Health Society lieutenant Mr. Simmons. But the "some bodies" fought a gallant battle and gained their point. No one, as Mr. Harrison remarked, would be inclined to have the slightest difference of opinion with Mr. Beames as to the desirability of allowing all Commissioners equal chances of usefulness, but it is difficult to see where lies the impossibility of that under the existing arrangements. No body prevents all Commissioners in taking their due share in business; on the other hand it is not always the easiest of affairs to induce some of them to sit on Committees. Mr. Beames gratuitously supposes that "omnivorous men" of the type of the gentleman who consented to serve on seven different Committees, want to keep all the business to themselves, as if sitting on Committees is the most enjoyable of luxuries available on earth. Mr. Beames' proposal of the elimination of three-Committee-men from future Committees would no doubt have the effect of getting rid of the objectionable elements on the first three available opportunities. They would be rendered unfit to serve on future Committees however important, leaving the business all in the hands of the "new blood" people. But as Mr. Cotton well pointed out this would not only render all future Committees effete, but would literally exhaust their numbers by eliminating the proscribed members, leaving none to form any Committee for which there might be occasion in future. We do want for the efficiency of the Committees omnivorous men of the type that Mr. Beames delights to ridicule, and we cannot be too grateful to them for their voluntary and unthankful services, and we are sorry that there are not many of them. The theory that all are not afforded chances of serving on committees under the present system of monopoly has no legs to stand upon in the face of Mr. Harrison's assurance that a reference to the last Corporation would show that nearly every member of the late body had been appointed to two or three Committees. There is, therefore, absolutely no grounds of Mr. Beames' fear of the new infusion being prevented from penetrating into future Committees; it is at liberty to penetrate at its heart's content. We are therefore glad that his senseless and unworkable proposal has been thrown out. We are sure we shall soon have a lugubrious homily inflicted on us by the *Englishman* for the defeat of the "new blood"; but we are used to such effusions from that quarter.

The following were the results of the voting or some of the different Committees:

Market Committee.—Colonel Lovett; Mr. W. J. Simmons; Mr. S. Gore-Browne; Moulvie Ahmed; Mr. A. F. M. Abdur Rahman; Mr. Elias S. Gubboy; Mr. Fuzlur Rohomon; Dr. Chambers; Mr. Kabir-uddeen Ahmed; Mr. Buddiruddeen Hyder; Babu Surrut Chunder Ghose; Babu Preo Nauth Dutt.

Water-supply Committee.—Babu Juggunnath Khan-nah; Colonel Lovett; Mr. G. Yule; Mr. J. Beames; Mr. J. G. Apcar; Mr. H. J. Reynolds; Mr. Cotton; Mr. W. Swinhoe; Babu Kally Nauth Mitter; Babu Surendro Nauth Banerjee; Babu Lall Madhub Mookerjee; Dr. Johoruddeen Ahmed; Babu Jogesh Chunder Dutt; Babu Rakhal Dass Ghose; Mr. J. G. Womack; Mr. Moulvie Kubiruddeen Ahmed; Moulvi Ahmed, Fuzlur Rohomon; Babu S. N. Dass; Babu N. N. Sen.

Busti and Tank Committee.—Dr. K. McLeod, Dr. Murray, Dr. Ahmed, Mr. J. Beames, Mr. J. G. Apcar, Mr. J. Khannah, Colonel Lovett, Mr. O. Larmour, Mr. W. J. Simmons, Babu Sreenath Chunder, Babu Surendro Nath Banerjee, Dr. Mohendro Lall Sagar, Babu Kally Nauth Mitter, Babu Omrito Nath Mitter, Babu R. Mittra, Mr. W. C. Madge, Babu Joygobind Law, Cowar Neel Krishna, Babu Lall Behary Bysack, Aga Mahomed Mehdee, Babu Hurry Prosunno Sen, Babu Rakhal Dass Ghose, Dr. Lall Madhub Mookerjee, Babu Shama Churn Lahory.

On the Chairman's motion the following rule was added to the rules of conduct of business at meetings after some discussion.

Whenever any Commissioner shall move a Resolution for the appointment of a Committee of a special nature under Section 55 of the Act, and this Resolution is duly seconded and carried, it shall be incumbent on the mover (1) to move that the Committee shall consist of a definite number of Commissioners (to which any other number may be moved as an amendment) and (2) to draw up a list of as many Commissioners as may be thus fixed for constituting the Committee.

On this list being seconded, any other Commissioner may either move the substitution of any one or more names for one or more of those contained in the list, or draw up a different list, and move that it be substituted for the list proposed by the mover of the original Resolution.

A stray effort was made by Mr. Beames to put a stop to Babu verbosity about which the Health Society organs have had frequent occasions of bitterly complaining. It was moved that the hour of meeting of the Commissioners be changed to 4-30 P. M. We need make no further remarks on the proposal as its consideration has been held over. But we cannot help noticing Mr. Cotton's witty recommendation to Mr. Beames to bring his motion that day six months which period would give him further experience. This was verily too bad; quite outrageous, thus to beard an Admirable Crichton at a public meeting.

THE CENTRAL PROVINCES.

THE annual report of the administration of the Central Provinces for the year 1884-85 bears ample evidence of the progress which the province has made in material prosperity. The province has had the good fortune of being placed under successive Chief Commissioners whose administrative abilities were unquestionable. Mr. Crosthwaite, who held charge of the Administration throughout the year under review is new to his office, but we are glad to notice that he has set to work with an earnestness which is highly commendable. Let him but follow in the foot-steps of his worthy predecessor, and he is sure to leave his mark on the provinces. The Report shows improvement in almost every Department. The following summary from the report will speak for itself.

The total revenue of the year 1884-85, in the Central Provinces, including the receipts from Provincial State Railways and Public Works amounted to Rs. 1,47,16,374, and the total ex-

penditure, including charges on account of Provincial State Railways and Public Works, to Rs. 92,71,551. The surplus of revenue over expenditure was 54,44,823. The finances of the Province, we are glad to hear, are in a satisfactory state. The closing cash balance at the end of 1883-84 was Rs. 27,15,882. At the end of 1884-85 it amounted to Rs. 28,81,794. These balances will be chiefly devoted, we are told, to improving the communications of the Province, and the works to be undertaken and paid for from them have been carefully considered and determined. Large allotments were made for these purposes in the budget estimates of 1885-86, but owing to the check put on expenditure under the orders of the Government of India, the money has not been spent.

At the beginning of the year under report the number of towns enjoying a municipal constitution, and their aggregate population were 61 towns and 6,91,271 persons. Municipal Committees for the most part consist, as in other provinces, of nominated and elected members and it is now the ordinary rule that Committees elect their own President and Vice-President. The principle adopted in framing election rules was to refrain from insisting upon a rigid uniformity, and to allow the evolution of the best practical franchise scheme by experience of the working of various sets of rules. The result is that the rules sanctioned reflect to some extent the varying composition of the communities to which they relate. Thus, in the Jubbulpore, Nagpur and Raipur rules, graduates of Universities, Licentiates of Medicine, Barristers, Pleaders, Durbaris and Honorary Magistrates are specially referred to as entitled to votes: while in Hoshangabad, Sohagpur and Khandwa, Gomashtas and Mukhtars in receipt of Rs. 200 per annum are considered of sufficient importance to form a descriptive head in the list of electors. Similarly in Damoh and Hatta, Chowdris are distinguished from other voters. Again in the small towns of Ramtek and Umrer the possession of a certain number of plough-bullocks is made a qualification for the Municipal franchise. The nearest approach to manhood suffrage is made in the town of Khapa, where ability to read and write entitles a citizen to be brought on the electoral roll. The Municipality of Kalmeshwar has preferred the guarantee of respectability implied in the enjoyment of an income of Rs. 150 per annum; and the town of Sambalpur is content with a property qualification, viz, the possession of moveables valued at Rs. 250. The bulk of the rules, however, make payment of Pandhari tax, or of Government revenue assessed upon land, the basis of a right to vote. Only a few municipalities (including Nagpur, Jubbulpore, Raipur, Damoh and Hatta) have adopted the principle that payment of rates should give a voice in the nomination of the persons to whom the expenditure of the rates is to be entrusted. While the independence of Municipalities has thus been strengthened internally, their authority and discretion in external matters is acquiring a larger scope. At the beginning of the year 1884-85, Circular orders were issued giving Municipalities at the head-quarters of districts and sub-divisions larger financial powers in the matter of making appointments and of undertaking public works and contingent expenditure. Municipalities were also called upon to decide whether they would employ the Police to superintend conservancy in their

towns; and the rate of contribution to the pay of the Police so employed was under discussion during the year. Twenty-five Municipalities have preferred to engage or retain their own establishments for supervising conservancy. The Chief Commissioner further directed that in the Budgets for 1885-86, Municipalities at Civil Stations should be relieved of the expense of contributing to the maintenance of such station gardens as are kept primarily for the advantage of European residents. The transfer of schools and dispensaries within Municipal limits to the management of Municipal Committees is in progress. Leaving out of sight the tax on vehicles, which exists only in Jubbulpore, the water-rate levied in Nagpur, and the special tax on wire-drawing realised at Burhanpur—the income derived from taxation by the Municipalities of the Central Provinces is of the following four descriptions:—1. Income from Octroi. 2. Licenses on trades. 3. House tax. 4. Bazaar dues. Octroi is the principal source of income in 33 out of the 61 Municipalities. It is the sole source of income (with insignificant exceptions) in 23 towns. The amounts realized by different towns under this head vary from over a lakh and a quarter (in Jubbulpore and Nagpur) to the trifling sum of Rs. 2,186 (in Mohari). The schedules of Octroi are in course of revision with a view to limiting the number of taxed articles to a few remunerative items. More liberal Refund Rules are also being generally adopted. New schedules and Refund Rules were published by several Municipalities during the year.

English coal, cotton goods, gunny bags, metals, salt, sugar and tobacco are the most important articles of import, and accounted in the year under report for 64 per cent of the weight and 70 per cent of the value of the total import trade. The chief features in the import trade of the year were a great decrease in the import of English coal and Indian piece-goods, and a large increase in that of Indian yarn. The chief features in the export trade were a great decrease in the export of cotton and tilseed, owing to the shortness of the crop, and a large increase in the export of wheat and hides. The port of Bombay engrosses by far the largest portion of the Provincial traffic, and the export trade of the Province with that port practically represents its export trade with Europe. The trade with the North-West Provinces and the Bombay Presidency is important, as supplying the Central Provinces with their sugar and salt respectively.

The expansion of the export traffic in wheat is perhaps the most striking feature in the trade of the year. It exceeded the export of 1883-84 by 20 lakhs maund and was 3 lakhs maund in excess of the export of 1881-82, which has hitherto been the largest on record. The total amount exported (nearly 98 lakhs maund) represents the produce of at least 14,00,000 acres, or 41 per cent of the total recorded wheat area of the Provinces.

The publication of the report of the Education Committee and the measures taken for the promotion of Local Self-Government have had much influence on the progress of Education during the year. The system prevailing in these Provinces has always been so much in accordance with the principles advocated by the Commission, that no radical changes of the system have been found necessary. The labours of the Commission

have, however, stimulated the efforts both of the Administration and of private individuals. The management of rural schools, which are principally supported from the school cess levied from the Malguzars, was placed under the District Council, and the relations of the Council to the Departmental officers were defined. From the report of the Inspector General of Education it is evident that the result has been good, and the transfer of the control of the schools to the local bodies has in no way impaired the progress of Education. In Municipalities the schools are for the most part under the direct control of the Department. The policy of the Chief Commissioner is to relieve the Department as much as possible of the direct management of all but the High Schools, and he has invited the Municipal Committees to take over the charge and financial responsibilities of schools situated within their jurisdiction and attended chiefly by scholars residing within their limits. It is believed that Municipal Committees will then take a more lively interest in the success of these institutions.

The working of the Tenancy Act which came into force on the 1st January 1884 is being watched. It is still too early to judge of its effect in regulating the relations between landlords and tenants. But so far no difficulties, we are informed, in applying it have arisen, and we are surprised to hear there has been little litigation under it.

THE INCOME TAX BILL.

AMIDST the glories of telegraphs, telephones, and hundred-ton guns, our Government is nothing if not scientific. It follows science with all the ardour of a craze, and does nothing except on professed scientific principles. But alas! in the climate of India, science is too apt to be addled in the hatching, and cause untold mischief on the people at large. Thus, it was on the strictest scientific principle that demand was expected to create a supply in Orissa, and it resulted in the destruction of a million of human beings through starvation. Science determined the exact quantity of food necessary for existence, and in carrying it out the "Temple rations" polished off several millions in the Dekkan. Science demonstrated that, of all forms of taxation, a direct income tax was the soundest, and twice was it tried in this country to the unutterable woe of the community. But Science is true, and the experiment must once again be tried. Science shews that only a few lakhs of persons will be affected by the tax, leaving some two hundred millions perfectly free, and we have in it the most perfect consummation of the doctrine of the greatest good for the greatest number. Scientifically none can dare to open his lips against such a postulate. But alas! we live not on scientific postulates. Our sad everyday experience teaches us a very different lesson. For every man taxed ninety-nine have to escape by tipping the Assessors' myrmidons. Nor is this confined to our experience only. The fact has been demonstrated over and over again by the highest officers of the State. But *cui bono*? Our Government is, as we have said above, a scientific one. It can do nothing that is not scientific. Indirect taxation is unscientific, and so it must be set aside, except when the gain is very large, as in the case of the salt tax. The income tax

must be introduced in spite of all objections. The Government is pledged to it, and we think it a waste of time and labour to reiterate our objections. Accepting the tax to be as inevitable as death, we suggested last week a plan for mitigating its evil to some extent. We recommended that the minimum should be raised to two thousand rupees, so that the great bulk of the poorer classes may be exempted. But the Government has not been able to accept it. Its professions for the welfare of the poor are unbounded. It cannot add to the salt tax, lest the poor suffer by it; it will not reimpose a duty on cotton, because that would trench on the principle of Free Trade, and make the clothing of the poor dear; it will not stoop to retrenchment lest the poor be put out of their berths; but it will, with the greatest complaisance, subject the said poor to be fleeced by the Assessors' peons, since science takes no cognizance of the art of tipping. We are told that Jupiter Pecuniarius could not tolerate the idea of raising the minimum to two thousand, because the bulk of the taxpayers, he expects, will be rated between Rs. 500 and Rs. 1000. If such be the case we could not have a stronger argument to prove the unsuitability of the proposed tax. In a community of two hundred millions, only about seven hundred thousands are supposed to have each an income of over Rs 500. And if the bulk of these seven hundred thousands earn under one thousand each, there is no room whatever for a graduated income tax. All are poor; there is a dead level of poverty everywhere; and the theories of science are set at naught. Strongly opposing as we do, the general principle of the Bill, we do not feel at all disposed to comment on its detailed provisions. That which is totally bad must be bad in its parts. We would have liked had the Bill been made temporary, so as to keep a door open for the reconsideration of the case after two or three years. The Native members were, we see, in favour of this course, and the remarks made by the Hon'ble Member in charge of the Bill also suggested the propriety of reconsideration next year. He said that the contracts with the provincial governments will expire in another twelve months, and that on a renewal of those contracts a much larger revenue will be derived than at present. He calculated also upon considerable gain by retrenchments. And it is to be hoped that, as there will be no Camp of Exercise nor a Burmese war next year, and the acquisition of the large kingdom of Upper Burma will materially contribute to our resources, the necessity for continuing an odious and oppressive tax will no longer be felt. But the Bill as revised by the Select Committee does not contain any indication of the suggestion having met with the approbation of the official members. The amendments made by the Committee are on the whole not very material, and such as they are, they are designed to afford relief only to Europeans. We notice a dark hint to deprive *Debottar* property of the benefits of the exemption clause.

"THE BEST AND TRUEST FRIEND."

THE note on the constitution of the proposed Metropolitan Municipality, annexed to the Report of the Amalgamation Committee, is an able document. It is written with consummate knowledge of the subject and an amount

of personal experience which few men in Calcutta, besides its author Mr. Harrison, could bring to bear on the subject. His condition is vast, and his power of generalization is manifest in every line of the document. Above all, the high credit for dialectic subtlety which he acquired during his late discussions with the Government of Bengal is fully sustained by the adroit way in which he has handled the question under discussion. The object of the note is to prove that the proposal made by the majority of the Committee to reduce the proportion of nominated to elected Commissioners to one-fifth or even one-fourth is not sound, and he works out this theme by setting forth an elaborate array of tables and figures which show that the Hindoos have monopolised the present Calcutta Corporation. He starts with a remarkable confession of faith. He says, "I, as a strong advocate of the admission of the people of India to a larger share of power and responsibility, consider that I am the best and truest friend of representative institutions on their trial, in protesting against their being subjected to a strain which they cannot reasonably be expected to stand." This is certainly high-sounding and decidedly imposing; but divested of the glint of words it means that although he is "a strong advocate" for extending to the natives "a larger share of power," he best promotes his advocacy by not only prohibiting all extension of power, but by organising a system of Town Council which would deprive them of a good share of the power which they have enjoyed for the last three years! What then would "the best and truest friend" do is exactly what an enemy would do without any profession of "strong advocacy." Of course it is highly improper to put a thing to a greater strain than what it can, "reasonably be expected to stand," and if his proteges are not fit to bear any further strain, the obvious, frank and sincere course is openly to say so. The necessity for a claim to strong advocacy in such a case is a mere surplusage. But the question that this declaration suggests is, are the objects of his solicitude and care really unfit for any additional strain? The objects of the people of Calcutta as integers of the "people of India" referred to in clause (5) of his para 3 and how they have hitherto acquitted themselves is best shown in the note. Confining ourselves to what he says about the Hindus, we find on Mr. Harrison's testimony "that the educated Hindus have taken to municipal work with more keenness and relish than either the Europeans and Eurasians or the Mahomedans, and have, by their assiduity and attention to their duties, augmented their influence;" "that they number among their ranks a larger porportion of leisured men than the European and Eurasians;" that they attend the meetings of the Corporation more frequently and more regularly than the members of the other sections of the community, (annually 1460 times against 459 of Europeans and Eurasians); that they evince "greater readiness" to devote their time to Town Council work than others; that they have no wish to exclude Europeans or Mahomedans from the Town Council; that some of them attend meetings three times every week all round the year, ungrudgingly and uncomplainingly without any remuneration; and that they try their best according to their light to improve the town, and maintain inefficiency all conservancy work. To un-

sophisticated people this catalogue of merits would mean that the Hindus have acquitted themselves most satisfactorily, and that instead of their being incapable of standing the strain, are fully equal to the strain of an additional weight. But their "best and truest friend," Mr. Harrison, thinks otherwise. He suggests, avowedly of course for their good, to check them in every possible way. He desires that their numerical strength should be reduced, their influence destroyed, their mouths gagged, and their duties so attenuated as to appear more like a shadow than a reality. The Greeks trained their youths to hardihood by subjecting them to arduous exercise from their infancy. But the "best and truest friend" of the Hindus proposes to improve them by putting them under a glass case. The Europeans do not care to attend the meetings of the Corporation, nor take a part in the municipal work of the Town; they decline when they are asked to join the Town Council, and this difficulty "the best and truest friend" of the natives proposes to overcome by paying an honorarium for every attendance, i. e. to check those who attend very regularly without pay. he would get up a mercenary phalanx,—of course in his solicitude not to break the backs of the natives by putting too much strain upon them. To work out this part of his theme he has, with consummate skill, worked out a theory of the relative importance of the different sections of the community, and the different interests which should have a voice in the affairs of the municipality, and having got the premises settled according to his fancy, or predilection, or bias, arrives at his conclusion with the greatest satisfaction. We have neither time nor space to devote to this part of the dissertation, but we cannot let the matter pass without taking note of what is the most potent factor in Mr. Harrison's argument. According to him "by far the first in importance is the commercial interest." In more than one sense this is true enough. Adverting, as Mr. Harrison does, to the English merchants, none can deny that they constitute a most important class. They are the relatives and friends of our rulers; they have influence enough, through English Chambers of Commerce and other means, to press very heavily even on our Governors and Viceroys; and they can bring to bay any local officer who does not follow in their train. But we fail to perceive how their unquestionably vast influence can be held to be synonymous with Municipal interest. Generally speaking, they are all birds of passage; they come to make money as fast as they can; they go away as soon as they have made their fortune; they run to Europe as often as they can afford to do so; they live mostly, in hired houses and transact their business in rented offices; they own no land and have no abiding interest of any kind in the town; they pay no house-tax and by their influence often get the cost of works incurred by them thrown on their landlords,—pace the cost of laying water pipes; and surely these are not predicates which prove that they are "by far the first in importance" in Municipal matters, and not those who own the land, who build the houses, who live here from generation to generation, and who have every thing to lose and nothing to gain by the decadence of the Town. The primary duty of the Corporation is sanitary care, and in

this respect both the Europeans and the natives fare alike. Our "best and truest friend" may not believe it, but no sensible man not riding a hobby or holding a brief on one side or the other, will deny that a native feels as much when laid down by an attack of fever or cholera as any Englishman, and the fear of death is even more lively in natives who are reputed to be cowards, than in Englishmen who claim to be the bravest on earth, and take special delight in rushing to the tiger's mouth by way of pastime. In so far there is not an iota of proof to show any thing of the "first importance" in Municipal matter which Mr. Harrison claims for Englishmen. We readily admit that the presence of the English merchants adds greatly to the value of house property in the town, and that if they left Calcutta on account of the Hooghly being closed and the Mutlah left unused, that value would be depreciated; but this issue has no connection with the case under discussion. The English merchants do not live to benefit the natives, but to benefit themselves; and the obligation is mutual between the payer of good rent and the builder of comfortable houses. As for the closing of the Hooghly, it is a contingency which, should it happen, the Municipality of Calcutta, even when conducted entirely by Englishmen, cannot prevent. It is the farthest from our wish to show any disrespect to our fellow citizens from Europe. We appreciate their presence and services highly, and would be the last to permit any circumstances to occur which would in the least ruffle our mutual good feeling and sympathy; but logic is logic, and we have an innate aversion to false reasonings even when it proceeds from our "best and truest friend." We trust our European fellow citizens will mark this difference, and not permit Mephistophelian arguments to mislead them. As for "the best and truest friend"—we wish he will spare the natives his solicitude for their good. They will do better with Mr. Reynolds who professes no such solicitude.

LATEST NEWS AND NOTES

HIS EXCELLENCY the Viceroy arrived in town from the Camp of Exercise at Delhi on Thursday last at 5-15 P. M. As previously announced the arrival was strictly private. But this does not seem to have been taken sufficient note of, or else there would not have been some little unpleasantness which, we regret, did arise. The late Nepalese Commander-in-Chief, with staff, was present at the platform, but the Viceroy could not stop to converse with him or with his staff, as it would be against the rules of etiquette to do so, since the arrival was private. His Excellency desired Mr. Harrison who was in attendance, to explain this to the Commander-in-Chief.

WE WOULD draw the attention of our readers to an advertisement in another column in reference to the general meeting of the National Association for supplying female medical aid to the women of India, which will be held in the Town Hall, on Wednesday, the 27th instant, at 5 p. m., under the presidency of His Excellency the Viceroy. The meeting we have no doubt will be a very largely and influentially attended one as its object is most laudable and deserves sympathy and support of all interested in the amelioration of the condition of our women.

HIS EXCELLENCY the Viceroy and suite will leave Calcutta for Madalay on the 1st of February. His Lordship's sojourn in Upper Burma will, it is expected, extend over a month.

PARLIAMENT was opened on the 22nd by Her Imperial Majesty in person, but the Speech was read by the Lord Chancellor. With regard to the annexation of Upper Burma, Her Majesty in the Speech says: "I greatly regret that I have been compelled to declare war against King Theebaw, whose acts of hostility against my subjects and the interests of my Empire have been deliberate and continuous since his accession to the throne. His conduct necessitated the withdrawal of my representative, and I demanded redress, which was systematically evaded. In his attempt to confiscate the property of British subjects he refused arbitration. All these acts convinced me that the protection of British life and property, and the cessation of the dangerous state of anarchy then existing in Upper Burma, could only be effected by force of arms. Through the gallantry of my European and Indian forces under General Sir Harry Prendergast, the country has been rapidly subjugated. I have decided that the most certain method of ensuring peace and order in Upper Burma is by its permanent incorporation with my Empire." In the course of the Debate on the Speech in the House of Lords, Lord Salisbury said that "he believed that Burma would not be a heavy burden on the Indian Treasury, but on the contrary would immensely enrich it." Mr. Gladstone in the lower House, declined to express an opinion about Burma.

THE FOLLOWING reference is made in the Speech regarding the proposed Royal Commission: "The time that has elapsed since I assumed the direct Government of India makes it desirable that a careful investigation should be made into the operation of the Statutes whereby it was effected."

WITH REGARD to relations with Russia relating to the Afghan Boundary question the Speech says: "My relations with all foreign Powers continue to be friendly. My difference with Russia on the subject of the Afghan boundary has been satisfactorily arranged; and, in pursuance of the Convention with the Russian Government, the Boundary Commission are now engaged in fixing a line of demarcation, and I trust that the work, already far advanced, will tend to secure the maintenance of peace in Central Asia."

HERE IS another chance for the Government to give effect to its resolution to encourage local manufactures. Messrs Bosak and Co., of this city, have sent for our inspection some samples of mill-boards-paste boards, visiting and invitation cards, of their own manufacture, which, we are glad to say, reflect very great credit on their skill and enterprise. The specimens are as serviceable as any that can be got from England, and they can be had at a much lower price than the English articles. Large Government orders and public patronage will very much further the cause of this new industry.

MR. JUSTICE NORRIS has returned from leave. His Lordship resumed his seat in the High Court on Monday last.

WE WELCOME the Bengal delegate Mr. Monmohun Ghose who arrived in town from Bombay on Monday last. A number of our educated countrymen and a few ladies were at the railway platform to give him a cordial reception on his return home. Mr. Ghose was accompanied by Mrs. Ghose and Miss Ghose.

HIS HIGHNESS the Maharaja of Cashmere, has, we are glad to learn, subscribed Rs. 3000 in aid of the Funds of the Indian Association for the Cultivation of Science. The Institution has been doing useful work, and deserves the support and patronage of all well-wishers of the country.

GENERAL WILSON, we are glad to learn, has rallied now, and although not yet positively out of danger, hopes may fairly be entertained of his recovery. The old general's iron consti-

tution has helped the doctors a good deal in bringing him round. A zealous correspondent of a Bombay paper had interpreted his relapse into certain death and to be beforehand his brother correspondents had wired to his paper that the General had died. The obituary notice was duly issued and the ships in the Bombay harbour lowered their flags half-mast. It is hoped that the General will like to read his obituary. The Iron Duke had twice his obituary published long before his demise.

MR. EDWIN ARNOLD, in the course of his Indian tour, was in our midst during the last week. As Mr. Arnold's stay at town was a very short one, the native public had not an opportunity of giving him a suitable reception which they very much desired to do. Mr. Arnold was not slow to make the best of his short sojourn and made acquaintance with many native gentlemen. He was invited by the British Indian Association at their committee meeting on Wednesday last, where he made the acquaintance of not only the members of the Committee, but also of several other men of light and leading who had been invited to be present. On that occasion Pandit Mahesh Chundra Nyayaratna welcomed him with an extempore Sanskrit stanza. Mr. Arnold takes a deep interest in India, ancient and modern, and we trust that his 'Light of Asia' will not be the only living manifestation of his keen interest. He is influentially connected with the *Daily Telegraph*, and he can, if he be so inclined, do immense good to India by advocating her cause and helping her political amelioration. His Indian tour, let us hope, will leave a favourable impression on his mind and will induce him to befriend us whenever there is an opportunity to do so. He left for Ceylon on Wednesday evening.

IN JULY before last we noticed with approval a movement set on foot by some leading members of the *Kayastha* community of Calcutta to consider the question of readmission of young men into society who may have returned from England or may do so in future on their consenting to perform certain prescribed ceremonies, and agreeing to follow Hindu habits and customs in their daily life. We noticed with pleasure that Hindu Society was gradually awaking to the necessity of taking these young men back into its bosom as they by their training and education formed an important class of the community, and could not for that reason very well be spared. We expressed a hope that they would not be slow to take advantage of these facilities of re-entering society and should not be reluctant to perform the harmless ceremonies that society required them to do. But it was rather hoping against hope, and we had naturally enough some misgivings as to whether they were at all anxious for re-entering society, and whether they were prepared to accept any terms of compromise. That we were not for wrong in our misgivings is clear from the fact that till lately no special anxiety was shown to take advantage of the facilities of readmission that society was prepared to place at their disposal freely, ungrudgingly and in the best of spirits. But matters have taken a better turn now. It gives us great pleasure to notice an instance in which the facilities HAVE after all been taken advantage of, and the right hand of fellowship extended in return. It may not be generally known that Babu Monmohun Ghose, a son of Babu Abinash Chunder Ghose, the able and popular interpreter of the High Court, went to England sometime ago without his father's aid or consent, but on returning home good-naturedly agreed to perform the expiatory ceremonies that society required him to do. He was, thereupon, restored to his caste with the sanction of *Adhyapakas* and his castemen, and has ever since been living with his father, an orthodox Hindu, and has been strictly following Hindu manners and customs in the details of his daily life. His grandfather died the other day, and he visited his friends and relatives in the customary mourning garb in company with his father. The invited *Adhyapakas* took part in the *Sradha* ceremony of Babu Abinash Chunder Ghose's father without raising objections on the score of the son being associated with the orthodox father in the ceremony. A large and influential gathering of *Kayasthas* testified

by their presence that the movement had the sympathy and support of the community, and that young men returned from England would one and all be welcomed back into the bosom of society as soon as they had ceased to defy her, and had consented to abide by her laws, arbitrary and exacting as they may appear. We record this as a triumph of the principles to which orthodox Hindus are devotedly attached, and also as a living manifestation of their keen desire to incorporate into their body what they regard as an important factor of their social, political and moral progress. The way has been made clear, and our England educated friends will have to thank themselves if they are now left out in the cold. In solution of important social problems like this there must of needs be large concessions on both the sides. Hindu Society has done its duty, and we congratulate it, and it remains to be seen how those for whose special benefit the movement is started, will respond. We said then and we say again that if these young gentlemen will but show a tolerant and respectful demeanour towards society they may rest assured that they will be received back with the greatest alacrity. It is now their look out and theirs alone, which way they will go. It is out of the question that a handful of young men should be permitted to defy the whole nation.

TIME has not yet soothed the soreness of Mr. Ilbert's feelings. He seems to be still smarting under the strictures of the press anent the last Entrance Examination. At the City College the other day in the course of his presidential address he is reported to have said: "He observed in the report a reference to the last University examination. It contained an expression of some disappointment and surprise at the results of the recent University examinations. Personally he was not sorry for these remarks, but he would see that enquiries should be held with regard to this matter in justice to the University authorities. He personally was not anxious to undertake such a delicate and invidious task. What he wished was that the governing authorities of the University must be absolutely without suspicion." This is scarcely the right feeling in which he can impartially discharge his duties as chairman of the Committee of enquiry appointed by the Senate the other day. His anxiety should not be to place the University authorities above suspicion, but to see justice done without stint. However, we do not expect much from the Committee. The hectoring of the Syndicate did not suffice to silence the press, so this Committee has been got up consisting of three men whose official onerous duties leave them no time for the investigation of the woes of school boys, and are expected to play into hands of the Syndicate. We should be glad, indeed, to find we are mistaken.

WE HAVE RECEIVED the first two numbers of a new daily newspaper published in Bombay of the name of *The Advocate of India*. The numbers in hand, we are glad to say, are well written and well got up, and the management will have deserved success and public support if the standard is maintained. Circumstanced as India is, she cannot have too many Advocates, and the advent of a new one is naturally welcomed with joy in expectation of much good. Whether good or evil is to result must depend largely on the way in which an advocate discharges his trust. Not ability alone or conscientious discharge of duty, but tact, judgment, discretion and other advocate-like qualities are needed most. As a daily paper the *Advocate of India* ought to be a tower of strength to the good people of Bombay. We need hardly say that we wish our new contemporary entire success and a long lease of life.

AT THE examination of candidates for Deputy Magistrateship which commenced at the Senate House on Monday last, about a hundred candidates appeared. The clerkship examination commenced on the preceding Saturday.

THE GIGANTIC pageant on the plains of Delhi got up at an enormous expense for the delectation of the representatives of the Foreign Powers.

who were to go back and describe to their Governments, the splendours of the "gorgeous east" and to impress upon them a sense of England's greatness, has well nigh ended in a *fiasco*. The 'Queen's enemies' might effectively have been held at bay, as indeed they always have been; but no amount of red coats and burnished bayonets supported by the Queen's representative himself and those of her friends and allies could foresee or prevent Jupiter to have his way. The long and short of it is that the Grand March Past, to be specially present at which the Viceroy in his weak state of health hurried in hot haste all the way to Delhi, was pitifully marred by inclement rain, and spectators who were on the tiptoe of expectation but an hour ago must have wished themselves a thousand miles away. Everything promised well at the beginning, the ignominious defeat of one of the contending forces in the historic and memorable plains of Panipat notwithstanding. But no sooner had the Viceroy and his gorgeous retinue arrived at the field, than it began to rain in torrents. The March Past, however, could not be put off and had to be gone through as best as it could be. A correspondent of a contemporary aptly describes the scene thus:—"The Royal standard clings flabbily to its pole; the chair of State has disappeared under a *durree*; beauty and fashion are disguised out of recognition beneath water-proofs and umbrellas; and the chivalry off duty is hiding itself under horse-cloths and beneath carriages. The Viceroy, still on horseback, is facing it undismayed, and the march-past proceeds, but the mere passage of cavalry and the artillery at the slow has converted the ground into a slough. Good marching is impossible, and the spectators find what amusement they can in watching the floundering soldiers struggling for their shoes. So, alas and alas! what promised to be a pageant of rare beauty and interest has ended, or must end, in discomfiture and disappointment for all concerned." Woe worth the day. The 'floundering' heroes would infinitely prefer being dubbed 'carpet knights' to going through a second course of this. Our sturdy volunteers were not to be behind hand in displaying heroism under trying circumstances like these and are reported to have done admirably, to which effect their Field Commandant telegraphed to the Presidency Commandant, as if in the memorable words of Mr. Hopkins of Nuddea, the post would be too slow to convey the welcome tidings to their friends and the inconsolable fair ones that the heroes left behind, who must have been dying to hear of the glories of the field day. The camp is breaking up and every one is said to be sorry that the *tamasha* should have come to a close, alas, so soon. The foreign representatives, whom a taste of Indian sweets may not unnaturally have excited a little, feel the pangs of an abrupt close most keenly, and propose to make up for it by picnicking all over the country for some time. One of them proposes to stay behind for a year, and enjoy Indian life.

THE POPULARITY of the Gilchrist Scholarship Examination is gradually on the wane. At the last Calcutta Examination held on Monday the 11th, only two candidates appeared. The idea seems to be and rightly enough, that the Scholarship is totally inadequate for the purposes it is meant, and a Gilchrist scholar cannot very well prosecute his studies in England unless he has other resources than his scholarship to fall back upon. The abolition of the second scholarship, the veto put by the Calcutta Senate against further examinations, and the general disfavor with which the Syndicate look upon what they call the interloping examination, must also have helped in taking away from the popularity of the Examination. It is time that the attention of the Trustees were directed to this unsatisfactory state of affairs.

THE TOTAL number of holidays for Collegiate Schools during the year 1886 will be 130, and that for High Schools will be 118, including Sundays and gazetted holidays. The former will remain closed from the 25th April to the 17th June following. The number of holidays in Government Colleges is fixed at 145 days, the number of working days being thus 220.

THE OPERATIONS of the Government Savings Banks during the past financial year must be regarded as satisfactory on the whole. Throughout, the whole of British India including the Berars there were no less than 5859 banks in which 243,037 depositors deposited Rs. 3,70,06,192 and drew Rs. 15,80,372 as interest on their deposits. Besides money deposits Government securities to the extent of 2,09,700 were left in the custody of the Comptroller-General, and it is expected that there will be a greater increase in the amounts deposited and the Government securities so left for safe custody, as with the advancement of time the general public come to recognise and appreciate the advantages of investments of this kind. It is a matter of congratulation that with the increased facilities placed in their way the poorer classes should day by day be so keenly alive to the advantages of thrift. We have little doubt that with the abolition of the dual system of the Post Office and Treasury Savings Banks and the consequent simplification in the machinery of depositing and drawing out money, this useful institution will be still more successful. The number quoted above does not represent the Treasury banks alone, but comprises the Post Office, the Presidency, the district and the railway banks.

WHEN THE Economic Museum was established by Sir George Campbell in 1874, it was stated that its object was not to bring together "things ornamental or curious, still less specimens of fine arts, but specimens of the ordinary products of Bengal, of its agriculture, its mineral, its manufactures and its forests and wastes." Any one having occasion to visit the Museum in these days, however, will at once see that the promoters had not the object strictly in view in making the excellent collection and feel thankful that it has been so, because a much wider scope has been given to it than originally intended. At the end of 1883, the collections numbered about 15,000 specimens and after the close of the Calcutta Exhibition in March 1884, important additions were made to them in the shape of the large collection of economic products made under the orders of the Government of India for the International Exhibition; the large and valuable collection of art products of India purchased by the Bengal Government at the Exhibition; the valuable collections of models and ethnological objects prepared for the Exhibition; and the exhibits presented to the Bengal Government by Colonial Governments and private exhibitors. On making over the collections to the Indian Museum, the altered conditions of the Museum necessitated a change in its designation, so as to adequately indicate its character: and it is at present known as the "Bengal Economic and Art Museum." Proposals for bringing the Economic Museum into more intimate relationship with the Indian Museum, and for reorganizing the School of Art and Art Gallery, are now under the consideration of Government.

TELEGRAMS.

A PARIS telegram says that a ministerial Statement has been made in the Senate and Chamber of Deputies, in which the French Government hints at the likelihood of a separation of Church and State. The policy of the Government will be strict economy in all quarters; no more expeditions will be undertaken, and a protectorate will be organised over Tonkin and Madagascar on the simplest bases. It would indeed be very much to the advantage of the nation if what the statement promises was all carried into practice. But the action of the late Government in Tonkin and towards the Malagassy Government naturally makes the people a little suspicious about the righteous peace protestations. The retirement of M. Brisson, however, may help in smoothing down difficulties. The pity of it is that ministerial statements as a rule do not give any very definite idea of the Government programmes.

THE suspension of hostilities between Serbia and Bulgaria, has, we should have thought, lasted long enough to complete peace negotiations. But strictly speaking they have not yet been opened, on which score the former refuses to disarm. The intervention, therefore, of the Great Powers is practically neutralised for the present. Bulgaria seems to distrust Serbia naturally enough. She has, however, intimated her willingness to disarm as soon as Serbia has done so.

But Greece is more stubborn and harder to deal with and has refused point blank to comply with the collective requisition of the Powers that she should disarm. What the Powers propose to or can do in this strait it is not easy to foresee. But all is certainly not well considering that the Russian Government is making proposals to the Powers for further action in view of the refusal of Serbia, Greece and Bulgaria to comply with their requisition. If "further action" means any thing like armed intervention, and if the Powers agree in acquiescing in Russia's proposal, which fortunately is not very probable for the present at any rate, Europe will have simply jumped from the frying pan into the fire. In the House of Lords Lord Salisbury has declared that neither England nor any other Power intended to support the claims submitted by Greece, which were of an unheard of nature. Turkey meanwhile seems to be thoroughly helpless. Prince Nicholas of Montenegro has gone to Constantinople in reply to an invitation from the Sultan, but for what definite purpose we have no information at hand.

THE REBELS at Suakin are showing renewed activity and have again taken to firing on the British patrols. At a Conference held between the Khedive, Sir H. D. Wolff, and Ahmed Mukhtar Pacha, the necessity of forming two battalions of Egyptian troops to replace the British garrison at Suakin has been agreed to.

THE IRISH difficulty promises to be the engrossing Parliamentary topic of the day. The *Daily Telegraph* announces that, at a Cabinet Council, it was resolved to re-enact the repressive measures with respect to boycotting in Ireland. Some at least of the leaders of the Liberal party take the same view of the question. The Duke of Bedford states that he will secede from the party if Mr. Gladstone yields to Irish disloyalty. Mr. Gladstone evidently does not see his way quite clear as he has written a letter declining to receive a deputation from Belfast which was desirous of waiting upon him. The right honourable gentleman denies that he is responsible for the plan for the settlement of Ireland which is attributed to him, and says that he awaits the proposals of Government, on the subject. The proposals of the Government, however, are definite enough as may be gathered from the Queen's speech with which Parliament opened on the 21st. Lord Salisbury received a deputation representing five Irish Loyalist Societies. The deputation, in their address, asked that Government should rigorously enforce the law in Ireland, and destroy the tyranny of the National League, which is doing so much harm. They also protested against granting Home Rule to Ireland. Lord Salisbury, in reply, said that he fully appreciated the gravity of the crisis, and that they might rest assured that he would be true to the responsibilities involved. The Right Hon'ble W. H. Smith, the War Secretary, and not Mr. Stanhope as previously announced, has been appointed Chief Secretary for Ireland. Mr. Smith has the reputation of a strong and able administrator, which Ireland sadly wants at this juncture.

NEWS of no very great practical importance has been received from Burma. The common tale of encounters with, capture and punishment of, insurgents, conveniently described as 'dacoits,' continues to form the chief items. Another Pretender to the Burmese throne, a nephew of king Mengdoin Men, who was lately a Phounggee, is reported to have taken the field with a following of over a thousand men, who also come under the common category of dacoits. On the morning of the 18th there was an encounter with these 'dacoits' at Kunnah, who were dislodged from their position. There has also been a brush with the enemy at Shoaagbo and the great 'dacoit' leader Hleoo is reported to have been killed by his own followers. Similar encounters are reported from Kyoutdulan and some of the Shan districts. Reports from the Pegu and Shwegyin districts, however, continue to be generally satisfactory. No further depredations have been reported. Until confidence is thoroughly restored and lawlessness finally suppressed, the troops at present stationed in the Shwegyin and Pegu districts would not be withdrawn. The dacoit leader Boshway is being hotly pursued and his death or capture may be shortly expected. Arrests and executions are going on, in the meanwhile, very freely on all hands, and the jails are filled with prisoners convicted and suspected of offences of all sorts. Mr. Bernard has returned to Rangoon to meet the Viceroy. Information from Colonel Johnstone, Political Resident at Manipur, states that Mr. Ruchshull and the Woon of Kendat are safe with him as also Messrs. Morgan and Bretto, of the Bombay and Burma Trading Co. Mons. Gois and another of the same company have been rescued by the expedition of the Chindwin river.

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Rani Rajbansi Kumar, of Soorsund, Camp Nasriganje in Dinapore, who has, with benefit to herself, adopted the use of Darlington's Infalible Pain-Curer for the last three years, writes again through Babu Hurrihar Under Sahi, under date the 26th August 1883,—"I have to inform you that a remittance of Rs. 25 has to-day been made to your name by a Money Order on the General Post Office, Calcutta, and to request you to send me ten large bottles of Darlington's famous Infalible Pain-Curer by return of post."

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ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.

We have to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of the undermentioned books and pamphlets:

1. Progress Report of Forest Administration in the Andamans for 1884-85.
2. Ditto Ditto in the Lower Provinces of Bengal for 1884-85.
3. Report on the Administration of Jodhpur State for 1884-85.
4. General Report on the Public Instruction in Bengal for 1884-85.
5. Code of Instructions for the Conduct of Office business &c. third edition.
6. Annual Report on Emigration from the Port of Calcutta to British and Foreign Colonies for 1884-85.
7. Annual Report on the Administration of the Land Revenue in Assam, 1884-85.
8. The Army and Navy Magazine, January 1886.
9. Journal of the Asiatic Society of Bengal vol LIV.
10. Proceedings of the Asiatic Society of Bengal, November 1885.
11. Parjor Association 1884-85.

Government Notifications

Calcutta Gazette, 20th January, 1886.

GENERAL.—Mr. F. R. S. Collier, Officiating Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Manbhum, is appointed to perform the functions of a Collector under section 4 of Act VI (B. C.) of 1880 in that district.

Mr. C. E. Buckland, C. S., has been granted by Her Majesty's Secretary of State for India an extension of furlough for one month.

Syed Mahomed Israil, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, has been granted by Her Majesty's Secretary of State for India an extension of three months' extraordinary leave on medical certificate without pay.

Mr. H. H. Birch, Officiating Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Julpigoree, is appointed to perform the functions of a Collector under section 4 of Act VII (B. C.) of 1880 in that district.

Mr. G. W. Place is appointed to act, until further orders, in the first grade of Joint-Magistrates and Deputy Collectors, as posted to the Sudder station of the Furreedpore district.

Mr. D. Cameron, C. S., has been granted by Her Majesty's Secretary of State for India an extension of furlough for three months.

Mr. H. Cox, Assistant Magistrate and Collector, reported his departure from India on furlough on the 1st instant.

Mr. A. W. R. Cadell, Assistant Magistrate and Collector, Patna, is allowed furlough for nine months, under section 52, chapter V of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from such date as he may avail himself of it.

Mr. W. Teuson, Officiating Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Raneezunge, Burdwan, is vested with the powers of a Collector under Act X of 1870 in the district of Burdwan.

In supersession of the order, dated the 25th September 1885, it is notified that Mr. A. W. Mackie, Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Lohardugga, acted as Deputy Commissioner of that district, in addition to his own duties, from the 26th September to the 2nd October 1885, both days inclusive.

Mr. C. R. Marindin, Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Monghyr, acted as Commissioner of the Bhagalpore Division from the afternoon of the 30th November to the forenoon of the 2nd December 1885, and as Magistrate and Collector of Monghyr from the forenoon of the 2nd to the forenoon of the 28th December 1885.

Mr. A. Earle, Officiating Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Tajpore, Durbhunga, is allowed leave for one month, under section 72, chapter V of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from such date as he may be relieved.

Mr. W. Maude, Assistant Magistrate and Collector, Shahabad, is appointed to have charge of the Tajpore sub-division of the district of Durbhunga, during the absence, on leave, of Mr. A. Earle, or until further orders.

Baboo Behary Lal Sirkar, Temporary Sub-Deputy Collector, Durbhunga, is transferred to Patna, and is posted to Behar in that district.

The services of Baboo Ram Niranjan Prasad, Temporary Sub-Deputy Collector, Behar, Patna, are placed at the disposal of the Financial Department of this Government for employment on Excise work in the district of Durbhunga.

Baboo Dwarka Nath Sen, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Jajpore, Cuttack, is allowed leave for three months, under section 72, chapter V of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from such date as he may be relieved.

Baboo Radha Madhub Bose, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, on leave, is appointed to have charge of the Jajpore sub-division of the district of Cuttack, during the absence, on leave, of Baboo Dwarka Nath Sen, or until further orders.

Mr. H. Mosley, Magistrate and Collector, Backergunge, acted in the first grade of Magistrates and Collectors from the 2nd to the 27th December 1885, both days inclusive.

Mr. C. H. Vowell, Magistrate and Collector, Pubna, is appointed to act, until further orders, in the second grade of Magistrates and Collectors, with effect from the 2nd December 1885.

Baboo Kustori Lal, Officiating Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, is posted to the Sudder station of the district of Purneah, with effect from the 1st September 1885.

Baboo Kustori Lal is allowed furlough for one year, under section 132, chapter X of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the 31st March 1886, or such subsequent date as he may avail himself of it.

POLICE.—Major H. M. Ramsay, District Superintendent of Police, Monghyr is appointed to act, until further orders, in the second grade of District Superintendents of Police, with effect from the 7th October 1884.

Mr. E. M. Showers, District Superintendent of Police, Mymensingh, acted in the third grade of District Superintendents of Police, from the 6th to the 11th October 1885, both days inclusive.

Mr. M. F. Beamish, Officiating District Superintendent of Police, Noakhally, acted in the fourth grade of District Superintendents of Police, from the 6th to the 11th October 1885, both days inclusive.

ECCLIASTICAL.—The Revd. W. H. Bray, Senior Chaplain of the Bengal Ecclesiastical Establishment, has been granted by Her Majesty's Secretary of State for India an extension of leave on medical certificate for four months.

EDUCATION.—Baboo Hara Gobinda Sen, Professor, Rajshahye College, acted in class I of the Subordinate Educational Service from the 8th February to the 30th April 1885, vice Baboo Redhika Prasanna Mookerjee.

Baboo Hara Gobinda Sen has continued to act in class I from the 1st May 1885, vice Mr. W. B. Livingstone, officiating in class IV of the Bengal Educational Service.

Baboo Nilmoni Ganguli, Head Master, Berhampore Collegiate School, has acted in class II of the Subordinate Educational Service, with effect from the 8th February 1885, vice Baboo Hara Gobinda Sen.

Baboo Nilmoni Chakravarti, Second Master, Hare School, Calcutta, is appointed to act in class II of the Subordinate Educational Service with effect from the 1st May 1885, vice Baboo Dina Nath Sen.

Baboo Iswar Chandra Bose, Head Master, Dacon Collegiate School, acted in class III of the Subordinate Educational Service, from the 9th February to the 30th April 1885, vice Baboo Nilmoni Ganguli.

Baboo Gobinda Chandra Mitra, Officiating Head Master Mozufferpore Zillah School, acted in class III of the Subordinate Educational Service from the 29th December 1884 to the 8th February 1885, and from the 1st to the 31st May 1885, vice Baboo Nilmoni Ganguli.

Baboo Gobinda Chandra Mitra is promoted to class III, with effect from the 1st June 1885, vice Baboo Jagat Chandra Banerjee, retired.

Baboo Shyama Charan Das, Temporary Head Master, Midnapore College, is appointed to act in class III of the Subordinate Educational Service, with effect from the 1st May 1885, vice Baboo Nilmoni Chakravarti.

Barada Prasad Ghose, Officiating Lecturer, Government Engineering College, Howrah, is appointed to act in class III of the Subordinate Educational Service, with effect from the 1st June 1885 vice Baboo Nilmoni Ganguli.

Baboo Madhub Chandra Goswami, Assistant Professor, Berhampore College, is appointed to act in class III of the Subordinate Educational Service, with effect from the 23rd August 1885, vice Baboo Sikrishna Chatterjee, on leave.

Baboo Ambika Charan Sirkar, Head Master, Ranchi Zillah School, held charge of the office of Assistant Inspector of Schools, Chota Nagpore Division, in addition to his own duties, from the 3rd July to the 2nd September 1885, vice Baboo Birswar Chauravarty, on leave.

Baboo Ambika Charan Sirkar acted in class III of the Subordinate Educational Service during the above period.

Baboo Jagat Bandhu Bhadra Head Master, Jessore Zillah School, acted in class IV of the Subordinate Educational Service, from the 29th December 1884 to the 8th February 1885, vice Baboo Gobinda Chandra Mitra, and from the 6th February to the 30th April 1885, vice Baboo Iswar Chandra Bose.

Baboo Bhawani Charan Mookerjee, Head Master, Deoghar Zillah School, is appointed substantive *pro tempore* to class IV of the Subordinate Educational Service, with effect from the 19th January to the 31st May 1885, vice Baboo Nilkanta Sirkar, on deputation.

Baboo Bhawani Charan Mookerjee is promoted to class IV of the Subordinate Educational Service, with effect from the 1st June 1885, vice Baboo Gobinda Chandra Mitra.

Baboo Kali Nath Chaudhuri, Deputy Inspector of Schools Rajshahye, acted in class IV of the Subordinate Educational Service from the 1st to the 31st May 1885 vice Baboo Shyama Charan Das.

Baboo Kali Nath Chaudhuri is promoted to class IV of the Subordinate Educational Service, with effect from the 1st June 1885, vice Baboo Srinath Dutt, retired.

Mr. William Dutt, Officiating Head Master, Chittagong College, is appointed to be substantive *pro tempore* in class IV of the Subordinate Educational Service, with effect from the 1st June to the 22nd June 1885, vice Baboo Nilkanta Sirkar, on deputation.

Mr. William Dutt is promoted to class IV of the Subordinate Educational Service, with effect from the 23rd June 1885, vice Baboo Shoshi bhushan Dutt.

Baboo Kedar Nath Bose, Third Master Hindu School, Calcutta, is appointed substantive *pro tem.* to class IV of the Subordinate Educational Service, with effect from the 23rd June 1885, vice Baboo Nilkanta Sirkar on deputation.

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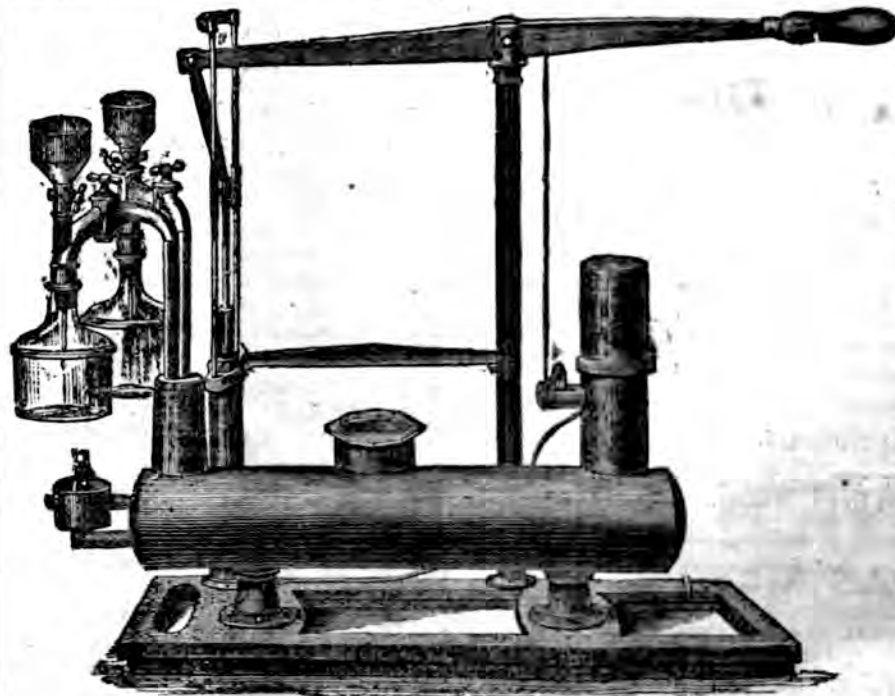
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Edinburgh Review, October 1883, p. 338.

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Civil and Military Gazette July 4, 1882.

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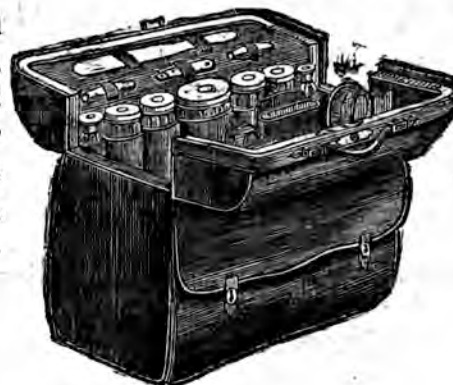
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